

HB 162 -- MISSOURI FIREARMS FREEDOM ACT

SPONSOR: Sommer

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 7 to 5.

This bill establishes the Missouri Firearms Freedom Act. In its main provisions, the bill specifies that a personal firearm, firearm accessory, or ammunition that is manufactured commercially or privately in the State of Missouri and that remains within the borders of the state is not subject to federal law or regulation, including registration, under the authority of Congress to regulate interstate commerce. These provisions apply to any firearm, firearm accessory, or ammunition that can be manufactured without the inclusion of any significant parts imported into the state. Any generic or insignificant parts imported into this state that have other manufacturing or consumer product applications and are used to manufacture a firearm, firearm accessory, or ammunition in this state are not subject to federal regulation. Certain specified firearms are excluded from the provisions of the bill.

The bill requires any firearm manufactured or sold in the state under these provisions to have the words "Made in Missouri" clearly stamped on a central metallic part of the firearm.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill states that a firearm or ammunition that is made in Missouri and remains in the state is not subject to control by the federal government as interstate commerce. Recently, the federal government has been overstepping the boundaries in this area. The bill is similar to laws in other states and is a good idea for Missouri as well.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Sommer; Missouri Family Network; Marc Perez; Ron Calzone; Peggy Berry; and Philip Todd.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.